

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Correct answers to Double Acrostic, published last week, have been received from Miss Grace B. Robinson, Moorlands, Annapolis; John A. MacDougall, 9 Dresden Row; Jas. O'Connor, City; Isaac Harvey Crowell, Halifax Hotel; G. H. Paton, 264 Gottingen St.; E. Boroham, City; Jas. C. McCunn, River John; T. S. McLean, Jr., Baddeck; and "Stellarton." "Stellarton" adds to the solution the following unique lines:—

"Of RHUBARB, a small dose  
In cup of ORMOLO,  
Is USEFUL in the MORNING.  
EUREKA! then cries Bilious—  
His LIVER gave the warning!  
The ancient tribe, ICENI,  
No such medicine knew  
Within the wide ARENA—  
The druggists then were few."

King Thobaw's sense of his own high mightiness has been so reduced that he has proposed an armistice. General Prendergast was able to dictate his terms—that the British army should be allowed to enter Mandalay.

The Servians and Bulgarians have been enjoying an armistice proposed by the Conference; that is to say, they have not been cutting each other's throats quite so rapidly, and they have been making extensive preparations to redouble their efforts. King Milan will consent to a peace if Serbia is not called upon for an indemnity, but he does not feel like losing any of the territory he has striven so hard to enlarge.

The long-contested case of the Provincial Medical Board *versus* Washington, for practicing without a license from the Board, was decided on Tuesday by Judge Johnston's awarding the plaintiffs \$140.

Our farmers should not neglect to attend the sale of thoroughbred stock to be held on Monday next. As will be seen by advertisement, the cattle and sheep are of well-known and favored breeds, such as any lover of good stock would be proud to own.

On Wednesday the returns of the elections in Great Britain showed: 223 Liberals, 193 Conservatives, 49 Nationalists. It now seems probable that in the end the Liberals will have a small majority over Conservatives, but that Conservatives and Nationalists together will constitute a working majority in the new House.

The number of deaths from small-pox in Charlottetown up to Tuesday evening was thirty-two. At Sydney the disease is under complete control; the few cases now there have been carefully isolated and every possible precaution to prevent the spread of the disease has been taken.

Small-pox has not yet appeared in Halifax, nor is it likely that it shall. And even if a case were imported hither in the course of winter—now an improbable supposition—such precautions have been taken, and are still being taken against it, that it cannot become epidemic.

Henry Nicholas Paint Esq., M. P., for Richmond Co., returned to Hawkesbury from Sydney about ten days ago, and from then up to Monday last was quarantined lest he might be infected with small-pox. The gentleman now greatly enjoys his recovered freedom.

The Law School will discuss next Saturday evening: "Resolved that trial by jury be abolished."

The Dalhousie Foot Ball Club defeated the Pictonians at Truro last Saturday.

A Port Hood gentleman reports that he was a few evenings ago carried away by the Salvation Army through several streets of this city, and that he found it exceedingly difficult to disengage himself.

Upon more than one occasion the severe sentence passed by the Stipendiary Magistrate upon offending strangers has been freely criticised by the citizens of Halifax. A few days since, a hypocritical convert of the Salvation Army, a veritable Judas, named Graham, sneaked away from the meeting of the Army, and stole from the deserted officers' quarters, the sum of \$32.00. The thief was subsequently discovered by detective Power, and promptly brought to the Police Station. Under the circumstances, he deserved to suffer the extreme penalty of the law. Instead, however, he was fined \$20, with the alternative of spending 90 days in the City Prison. Such is the even-handed justice dealt out in the Police Court of the city.

A pioneer man at Hawkesbury, C. B. (not Mr. Paint), has been subjected to an unexpected and vexatious inconvenience, owing to suspicions getting about the locality that he had small-pox. The affair has been the cause of much loud talk at silent, peaceful Hawkesbury.

Some of the foremost literary men of the Dominion are contributors to THE CRITIC CHRISTMAS EXTRA, only five cents a copy.

Send your friends the Christmas number of THE CRITIC. They will enjoy reading it, and it will convey to them your Christmas greeting in a manner quite as agreeable as would a card or sachet.

The Christmas number of THE CRITIC will be issued on or before the 12th inst. This will give time to mail it to friends living outside of the Province. Single copies five cents. Send in your orders in time.

Amherst people will not be caught napping in the event of small-pox making its appearance in their midst. Messrs. Rhodes, Curry & Co. put up for the town a Small-pox Hospital, which was finished in one week.

Dr. Washington holds a diploma from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. The College was chartered by an Act of the Ontario Legislature, in 1869, but it appears that its graduates are, for some unexplainable reason, prohibited from practicing their profession in Nova Scotia. Graduates of the Universities of McGill and New York are registered by the Medical Board without hesitation; not so graduates of the Ontario College. Why is this distinction made? Perhaps some of our Physicians will enlighten the readers of THE CRITIC upon this point.

Persons that wear or need spectacles will be much interested in the magnificent variety of eye-glasses to be seen in the rooms of Dr. J. R. McLean. An assortment of the finest glasses, manufactured in France and Germany, may be seen there. The Dr., with his thorough acquaintance with affections of the eye, and his successful treatment of so many cases of eye-disease, is quite sure to give his customers a safe glass, one that will be of exactly the strength required and no more. With spectacles in gold, or nickel, or silver, or bronze, or steel, or bone, or rubber, he can do much for the comfort of the far-sighted, the near-sighted, the weak-eyed, the dim-eyed, the blear-eyed, and even for some of the one-eyed.

The annual dinner of the North British Society was a pronounced success, whether it is considered with regard to the number and character of those present, the quality of the viands, the excellence of the speeches and music, the smoothness with which the programme went off, or the amount of Scottish enthusiasm evoked. The new president, Mr. Robert Baxter, showed by his calm manner and common sense remarks the wisdom of his appointment. Hon's. W. H. Fielding, J. W. Longley, and Wm. Ross, nobly sustained the reputation of our legislators for wit and eloquence. The city fathers had their speakers, too, in the persons of Mayor Mackintosh, and Aldermen Pearson and Chipman. Professor Weldon responded in an excellent speech to the toast of "The President of the United States." The stirring and patriotic speeches were chiefly the part of Rev. Robt. Laing, Col. Black, and Mr. Wm. Stephenson; and these gentlemen all distinguished themselves. Colonel Black, especially, in proposing the toast "Old and New Scotland," made the speech of the evening, "redolent," as the Colonel described his theme, "with poetry." Of the other speakers, Mr. C. F. Fraser, the retiring president, made some facetious remarks in proposing the health of "The Fair Daughters of Acadia." Excellent Scotch music was furnished by Messrs. Watts, Murray, Burnes, Morrison, Godfrey Smith, Campbell, Cromar, and Johnson. Altogether, the Scotch became, if possible, more Scotch; and those who were not Scotch, almost wished they were.

England and Germany have agreed to a settlement of the Carolines difficulty, by which Spain retains possession of these islands, and allows England and Germany the right of trading there.

The concert given in Masons' Hall last Friday evening, in aid of the Dispensary, was less successful than could have been desired. The audience was very small, the programme short, and, for the most part, very indifferent. Herr Kingonfeld's violin playing, and Miss Ceconi's singing, received well-merited encores. Mr. Ross sang with his usual correctness, and Miss Shoff's piano-playing was very pleasing; but the elocutionary attempts were sadly lacking in real elocution.

The steamers Carrol and Worcester are to lay up for a three months' rest. In the meantime, the S. S. Lunu O'Dee, will make weekly trips between Halifax and Boston.

Ex-Queen Isabella has telegraphed to the Spanish Embassy in Paris, to prepare a residence there for herself and the young infantes Isabella and Eulalia. She is afraid that if she remains in Madrid, she will be appointed regent.

A very respectable and fairly well-attended public meeting was convened at the Academy of Music, last week to discuss the Irish Question, and to awaken practical sympathy for the Irish Parliamentary League. The principal speakers were Mr. Sutton, of the Parliamentary League, His Grace the Archbishop, M. B. Daly, M. P., Hon. J. W. Longley, and J. N. Lyons, Barrister. Several speeches were of marked force, and all were characterized by a fairness and a moderation of tone that could not fail to make a good impression. Especially was this the case with the able and pointed address of Mr. Daly, who moved a vote of sympathy for the Irish Home Rulers, which was unanimously carried amidst prolonged applause. The remarks of the Archbishop, though unprepared, were fair, honest, patriotic, and in the best possible taste. Mr. Longley spoke in his usual happy style. Mr. Lyons, in a short and pithy speech, surpassed even the expectations of his friends.

The Catholic clergy of Quebec are throwing cold water on the dishonest attempts made to work their flocks into a frenzy of indignation over the execution of the rebel murderer, Louis Riel. The Catholic priests are far too conscientious to be parties to the deifying of such a villainous criminal.

We long entertained the suspicion that most vendors of spectacles made 100 per cent. more than a reasonable profit on those indispensable friends of imperfect eyes; but suspicion has become conviction since we find Dr. J. R. McLean, of Hollis St., retailing for 20 cents glasses usually sold here for 50 cents, and giving for \$1.00 glasses that used to cost here from \$1.50 to \$2.00.

The three-legged man at the Lyceum is this week proving a great attraction.

The first "calico carnival" ever held in Halifax, comes off at the Roller Rink, on this (Friday) evening. The attendance is likely to be very large. The popular and excellent band of the Royal Irish Rifles will furnish suitable music. The Roller Rink, this winter, seems even more attractive than it was at first.